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JOHN DUKE AND MARY JONES DUKE



John Duke was born November 19, 1834, at Albany, New York, son of Jonathan Oldham and Mary Stone Duke. He married Martha V. Young on March 31, 1857, and on April 6, 1857, married Mary Jones. Mary was born January 11, 1840, in Pennsville, Ohio. She was the daughter of Elisha and Margaret Talbot Jones. John Duke died November 3, 1919. Mary died September 2, 1927.

John Duke saw Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum quite often and remembered the cruel assassination on the 27th of June, 1844, in Carthage Jail. At the time Joseph and Hyrum were killed he and his brother Robert were playing by a creek which ran through Nauvoo and the water seemed to turn red like blood. John remembered when the quails came and settled on the tents and wagons, so that the people could catch them with their hands. The people acknowledged the hand of God in the sending of the quails, as they were hungry. This is when they were on the banks of the Mississippi River, with no way to get across. In the spring of 1850 they started for Utah in the James Pac's Independent Co. They saw many buffalo and a few were killed for food. He assisted in making roads into the canyons, where poles were obtained to build fences. He took up land which he later gave for the city cemetery and stone quarry, for the use of the community. He and his brothers, Robert and James, were pioneer brickmakers in Heber. They operated a brick yard north of town many years. John was a ward teacher many years. In 1877 he became first counselor to Bishop Clegg of

Heber West Ward. He was also chosen as a counselor to John M. Murdoch in the High Priests' quorum and held that office many years. In 1894 he was ordained a patriarch, giving many blessings to the people. John and his wife Mary lived to celebrate their sixtieth wedding anniversary, on April 6, 1917.

Mary Jones was the mother of 12 children. In 1862, John and Mary moved to Heber, where John had taken up some land, and built a log house. Later he built a brick house on the same lot. Not long after they came to Heber, Mary lost her second daughter, then in 1868 she lost twin daughters. She took in washing, did nursing and made quilts, and even sheared sheep to help. She often went with her husband to administer to the sick, she being very competent in caring for the sick and assisting in case of death. Mary was a counselor to Ann Murdock on the Stake Primary Board. She also worked in the stake Mutual and was a Relief Society teacher for many years.

John and Mary were parents of the following 12 children: Mrs. Thomas Murdock, Margaret, Elizabeth, Jonathan O., Elisha Jones, Mrs. Thomas H. (Julia) Crook, Mrs. Harmon (May) Cummings, Olive, Mrs. Gabriel (Stella) Nicol, Mrs. William (Sylvia) Buckley, Mrs. Matt (Hannah) Clements.

John and Martha were parents of the following 10 children: Mrs. Charles (Rhoda) Moulton, John Jr., Sarah, Alfred, Mrs. Bert (Annie) Murch, Louise, Joseph, Wesley Van, and two others who died in infancy.

MARTHA VAN YOUNG DUKE



Martha Van Young was born February 8, 1842, in Tennessee. Her parents were

Adolphia Young and Rhoda D. Jared Young. They were married in Tennessee on July 26, 1836.

Martha was married to John Duke on March 28, 1857. Their children were: John Jr., Mrs. Charles (Rhoda) Moulton, Sarah, Mrs. Bert (Annie) Murch, Alfred, Lewis, Joseph, and Wesley Van, and two little girls who died of diphtheria and were buried in one grave. She died at Heber City on December 28, 1914.

Her father was a very good carpenter by trade, and her Grandfather Young was a well-to-do, old-time southerner, who employed Negroes. Her grandfather had many good servants.

John D. Lee and Alfred Young, her father's cousin, brought the gospel to the Young family. Her father and mother both joined the Church, each being the only one in their respective families to do so.

In the fall of that year, Martha's father's family moved to Nauvoo. They lived in the basement of John D. Lee's house. While living there they were awakened one morning about daybreak by Hyrum Woolev, calling from the floor above. He called to her mother, saying: "Oh, Rhoda, Rhoda, Joseph and Hyrum have been murdered." That day everyone was in tears. They lived in Nauvoo until the saints were driven out, then they went to Council Bluffs, Iowa. Before leaving for Utah they went back to Tennessee to see her grandmother and other relatives.

On March 13, 1852, they bade their relatives all goodbye. They then went to Nashville and took the ill-fated steamer "Saluda" and at Lexington, Missouri, it blew up. After standing still at Lexington all night, where it was being prepared to take a fresh start up the river to Kanesville, the captain was talking to the fireman and said: "I'll stem this current or blow her to ———". The wheel was turned a few times and there was a terrible explosion. The boat was blown all to pieces and about 150 persons were killed. The captain's body was blown away on the hillside. The boat was near enough to the bank to lay a plank thereto, but so many rushed on to it for safety that it broke and let some of them into the water, but they were soon rescued.

The Youngs were the only family to sur-

vive without a loss. Isaac Bullock of Provo was another one on the boat. He had some money in his pocket; after the explosion it was all at his feet.

Her father got them all together as soon as possible and, after counting them, he said, "Martha's gone." He rushed back onto the boat and found her in the hull, where she had fallen when the hatch door blew up. She was not hurt, only a bad bruise from being hit with the door.

They stayed at Lexington, Missouri, for six weeks. Their bedding and luggage were all wet and it required some time to repair the damage done to their belongings.

Father Young bought three yoke of cattle, three cows, a wagon, a tent and everything they needed for the trip to Utah. They were well fitted for comfort and had plenty to eat, as her mother with forethought had prepared well for this long journey.

After traveling for 10 weeks, the disease of cholera broke out in their camp. On the 2nd of July, Father Young was stricken. He lived five days and died, being buried without a coffin. Her mother had a nice bedspread she had made and wrapped his body in it, then a heavy linsy quilt. In this way he was laid in his grave.

After his burial they traveled that morning with heavy hearts. Their trip from then on was uneventful. They had no more sickness or death. They arrived in Salt Lake Valley on September 24, 1852.

All were thrilled with joy as they gazed on the beautiful valley, the mountains, the lake and the nest of houses called the city.

In 1855, Martha's mother's family moved to Provo. In 1857 she and her sister married John and Robert Duke. In 1860 they moved to Provo Valley, later called Heber. After leaving the fort, Martha and John took up land east of town. Later they gave a tract of this land to the town for a cemetery.

Martha lived in Heber the remainder of her life, passing away December 28, 1914.